



AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES
of Connecticut

TESTIMONY BEFORE THE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
REGARDING COMMITTEE BILL 6217
Monday, March 14, 2011

Good afternoon, my name is Paul Brady. I am the Executive Director of the American Council of Engineering Companies of Connecticut, representing some 100 consulting engineering firms and over 1,200 employees in the state. I would like to testify in support of Raised House Bill 6482, *AN ACT ENCOURAGING PRIVATE INVESTMENT IN THE TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE OF THE STATE*.

Connecticut is faced with several problems impacting our ability to pay for our transportation infrastructure. In this environment, public-private partnerships (PPPs or P3s) have been used by other states as one alternative, among others, to procure transportation infrastructure improvements. Such partnerships combine a leveraged mix of public and private dollars to better bridge the gap between transportation needs and the public financial resources available to meet those needs. PPPs can bring investors and innovative design and project management expertise to the project that would not be available using traditional methods.

Twenty-nine states and Puerto Rico have enacted authority for a state transportation agency to consider and enter into PPPs for highway projects; 20 states also allow transit PPPs. More than 80 transportation PPPs have been completed over 20 years in the states.

Your responsibility as legislators would be to set the ground rules to protect the public and keep the process open and fair. Just last December, the National Council for State Legislators published "Public-Private Partnerships for Transportation: A Toolkit for Legislators" which is would recommend as a resource for the Committee in developing this legislation.

Thank you for your attention.

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